

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HEALTH CARE COST REDUCTION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

**HON. LOIS CAPPS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2012*

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today out of concern regarding the Protect Medical Innovation Act of 2011 (H.R. 436).

I am extremely disappointed that this bill, which addresses important issues, was needlessly injected with partisanship.

The medical device industry is integral to both our health care system and our economy.

Regardless of our political leanings, we should all be able to agree that it is in all of our best interests to support a thriving domestic medical device industry.

I have met with a variety of people on this issue—innovators, manufacturers, patients, consumer advocates, and many other stakeholders.

I understand their concerns about the impact that this policy would have, especially on small firms and in California, and wish we had the opportunity to look at a range of options to address them.

Unfortunately, in the bill before us, the House Majority has once again found a way to poison a bill by slashing important insurance provisions in the Affordable Care Act.

Yet again they have shown that they are willing to disregard American families in order to get a pithy sound bite and further their own divisive agenda.

By removing protections for low- and moderate income families who receive subsidies to purchase private health insurance, this bill pits American families verse manufacturers.

It essentially punishes people for improving their situation by getting a new job or a raise.

The result? According to the Congressional Budget Office, an estimated 350,000 families would be added to the uninsured ranks, and others would be left debating between going for a promotion or paying a hefty tax bill.

Health care is a right deserved by all, and shouldn't come with fear of punishment.

And the idea of asking American families to choose between having health insurance and improving their financial situations is preposterous.

Through this bill, the other side has shown that they are more concerned with dismantling health care reform than ensuring that the American people have access to health care.

And therefore I cannot vote for it.

### IN HONOR OF BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2012*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the time today to commemorate the 30 years

of dedication and service provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County. Through its mentoring services, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County has been a leader in prevention-based services to over 4,500 children and youth in our community since its founding in 1982.

By working to increase their sense of self-esteem and confidence, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County has proven effective in keeping children and youth in school, away from drugs and alcohol, out of the juvenile justice system, and thus able to make healthier, more constructive life choices.

Youth matched to Big Brothers or Big Sisters have been provided with caring, supportive, and positive adult role models who offer opportunities and options not otherwise available. Thousands of volunteer hours have been spent by carefully screened and trained mentors who provide one-on-one guidance, friendship, positive role-modeling, and support to youth in Santa Cruz County.

The commitment of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County grants not only new-found opportunities and support to at-risk youth, but a sense of purpose and satisfaction to those who guide them, resulting in the enrichment of the family as well as the greater community. As is their goal, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County has and will continue to create new opportunities to place appropriate mentors with youth from the increasing number of families in need.

The continued success of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County can be attributed to the dedicated staff and volunteers who have helped generate support and enthusiasm in our community and who have worked admirably for the benefit of others.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and my colleagues in the House, I would like to thank and congratulate the staff and volunteers of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County on 30 wonderful years of service.

### CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF MANO FREY, VICE PRESIDENT AND REGIONAL MANAGER OF THE LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA, NORTHWEST REGION

**HON. DON YOUNG**

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 8, 2012*

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, Mano Frey originally hails from Yakima, Washington, where he grew up with a relatively small family of ten sisters and seven brothers.

After graduating high school, Mano attended Seattle University where he majored in civil engineering. In 1970, Mano took a small break during his senior year to set off with his close friend for Alaska. Their destination? The now-famous city of Valdez, Alaska.

After experiencing the wonders and magnificence of what some call "old Alaska," Mano

decided to delay college in favor of joining Laborers' Local 341. Almost immediately he was dispatched to pour concrete for a new school using a 90lb pavement breaker.

Soon, Mr. Frey became a steward for the drillers and powder men at the main terminal camp for the Trans Alaska Pipeline. The job, which at the time was the biggest in world history, had over 25 thousand people working on the line from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez.

His reputation grew within the union's leadership and in 1977 he was appointed to be the area's business agent. A year later they asked him to transfer to the union's headquarters in Anchorage. Soon after Mano became the union's president. In 1981, he attained the job of Business Manager, a position he held until he became International Vice-President and Regional Manager for LIUNA's Northwest Region.

During his time in Alaska, Mano left his mark as a leader. On more than one occasion, Mr. Frey was recognized by the Alaska Journal of Commerce as being one of the top ten most powerful people in Alaska. He was the first and only labor leader to be given the Public Service Gold Pan Award by the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce.

For a decade, Mano Co-Chaired the premier advocacy group Arctic Power, which advocated for the opening of the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) to oil exploration. To bring significant economic development to the State of Alaska and Nation.

Leading the program, Mano oversaw the huge advocacy effort to open the nation's largest oil reserve. Legislation to open ANWR has passed the House 12 times due in no small part to the work of advocacy groups like Arctic Power and the Alaska Congressional Delegation. The bill even passed the Senate once, only to be vetoed by President Clinton soon afterwards.

But, in his own inimitable style, Mano never lost faith and continued to push for the opening of ANWR, with the knowledge that if you ever let up on your goals, you certainly will never reach them.

It was with that same determination that Mano served as the Alaska AFL-CIO's executive president from 1984 until 2003. During his tenure, Mano also had the privilege of serving on the National AFL-CIO's Executive Council. Upon his retirement from the Alaska AFL-CIO, and in recognition of all the years of hard work and dedication to the working men and women everywhere, the organization named him President Emeritus.

In 2003 Mano became a Vice President and Regional Manager for the Laborers International Union of North America. He served this organization and its members with honor. He demonstrated on numerous occasions that he not only cared about how all of the Local unions under his jurisdiction fared, but that the most important mission was the welfare and quality of life of the members and their families.

On behalf of all the working men and women of Alaska and beyond, whose lives

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